

U.S.S.N. 09/640,809

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Claim Amendments

Please amend claims 1-16 as follows:

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Listing of Claims

1-8 (canceled)

9. (New) A digitally encoded switch system for operating a plurality of vehicle lamps comprising:

a plurality of vehicle lamps;

a multi-position switch circuit having a plurality of selectable switch positions, the multi-position switch circuit being connected to a voltage source and including a plurality of switch contacts for selectively connecting given ones of the switch contacts to the voltage source for creating different open and closed circuit conditions for corresponding positions of the multi-position switch circuit;

a control module including a microprocessor connected to the multi-position switch circuit and to the plurality of vehicle lamps for illuminating selected ones of the vehicle lamps in accordance with the open and closed circuit conditions created by the multi-position switch circuit.

10. (New) The digitally encoded switch system of claim 9 in which the switch contacts of the multi-position switch circuit provide digitally coded signals wherein an open circuit condition manifests a first binary state and a closed circuit condition manifests a second binary state, and wherein the control module

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microprocessor is responsive to the digitally coded signals manifested by the circuit conditions of the multi-position switch circuit to illuminate selected ones of the vehicle lamps in accordance with the digital code; and

wherein the digitally encoded switch system includes failure mode robustness via decode software that that interprets circuit state failure modes when a line is permanently shorted or open and provides a best lighting function alternative that most closely resembles a lighting function selected by the user.

11. (New) The digitally encoded switch system of claim 10, wherein the plurality of vehicle lamps include a left low beam headlamp and a left high beam headlamp, a right low beam headlamp and a right high beam headlamp, a left front fog lamp, a right front fog lamp, a left rear fog lamp, a right rear fog lamp, a left park lamp, and a right park lamp.

12. (New) The digitally encoded switch system of claim 10, wherein a relay driver circuit, a multifunction switch and a relay are connected between the microprocessor and left and right high beam headlamp to selectively illuminate the headlamps in accordance with output signals from the microprocessor.

13. (New) The digitally encoded switch system of claim 12,

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wherein the multi function switch can selectively illuminate the headlamps independent high beams or flash to pass (ftp) independent of a microprocessor failure.

14. (New) The digitally encoded switch system of claim 10, wherein a left low beam high side driver circuit and a right low beam high side driver circuit are connected between the microprocessor and the left low beam headlamp and right low beam headlamp respectively to selectively illuminate the headlamps in accordance with output signals from the microprocessor.

15. (New) The digitally encoded switch system of claim 10, wherein a front fog lamp relay and a rear fog lamp relay are connected between the multi-position switch circuit and the left front, right front, and left rear, right rear fog lamps respectively to selectively illuminate the fog lamps in accordance with output signals from the microprocessor.

16. (New) The digitally encoded switch system of claim 10, further comprising:

an autolamp sensor device connected to the control module to provide ambient light information to the control module.